

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 CAB-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8992

INFO AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

UNCLAS GUATEMALA 6396

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: EAIR, GT

SUBJ: CIVAIR-TRANS INTERNATIONAL AIRLINE CHARTER FLTS JEO-
PARDIZED BY CAB REQUIREMENT

REF: GUATEMALA 5574

1.REGIONAL TOURISM ORGANIZATION, SITCA (SECRETARIA DE INTEGRACION TOURISTICA CENTRO AMERICANA, INCLUDING PANAMA), HAS BROUGHT TO ATTENTION OF MISSION A NEW PROBLEM RELATIVE TO EXECUTION OF SERIES OF 23 CHARTER FLTS HERE AND EL SALVADOR BY TRANS INTERNATIONAL AIRLINE (TIA), COMMENDING EARLY JAN 1976. ACCORDING TO DOCS SHOWN US, US CAB REQUIRES THAT CHARTER FLTS DESTINED TO C.A. BE COMPLETELY SOLD OUT 30 DAYS IN ADVANCE IN ORDER TO GAIN CLEARANCE TO OPERATE FROM US. APPARENTLY, THIS REQUIREMENT DIFFICULT IT NOT IMPOSSIBLE TO ACHIEVE, AND APPEAL IS BEING MADE TO CAB TO REDUCE ADVANCE-SALE REQUIREMENT TO 15 DAYS. THIS CLAIMEDLY IS REQUIREMENT ON CHARTER FLIGHTS DESTINED TO CARIBBEAN AND MEXICO. FEELING HERE STRONG THAT 30 DAY REQUIREMENT FOR CA IS INEQUITABLE AND DIS-CRIMINATORY.

2.ACCORDING TO DOCS. GIVEN EMBASSY, DIRGEN OF INSTITUTO SALVADORENO DE TOURISMO (IST) REQUESTED NOV 4 THAT DIRGEN OF EXTERNAL POLICY, MFA, EL SALVADOR, LAY MATTER BEFORE US EMBASSY, SAN SALVADOR, UNCLASSIFIED

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AND HAVE SALVADORENO AMBASSADOR IN WASHDC APPROACH USG.

ON SAME DAY IST ALSO ASKED SITCA TO SEEK MODIFICATION OF CAB RULING. US PARTIES WHO MAY ALSO BE APPEALING TO CAB ARE TOM DRIX, DIRECTOR, MAYAN ADVENTURE INTRAV, ST LOUIS, MO. (TEL: 314-727-0500), WHO CONTRACTED WITH TIA FOR CHARTER FLTS, AND STEWARD W. GRAFF, NATIONWIDE LEISURE CORP, MELVILLE, NEW YORK (TEL: 516-420-4200).

3. US EMBASSY SAN SALVADOR ADVISES NO APPROACH YET MADE TO IT ON THIS ISSUE. SITCA HERE HAS APPROACHED ROCAP.

4. REQUEST STATUS REPORT FROM CAB. LOCAL CLEARANCE FOR TIA CHARTER FLTS WAS NOT EASY TO OBTAIN (SEE REFTEL AND PREVIOUS), AND DELAY THEREIN MAY HAVE MADE 30 DAY REQUIREMENT ON TIA CHARTER FLTS IN JAN NEXT TO IMPOSSIBLE TO FULFILL. TIA CHARTER FLTS WOULD PIONEER EXPANSION OF TOURISM HERE, A PROGRAM USG SUPPORTING THROUGH ECONOMIC AID. IT IS EARNESTLY HOPED FLTS AS SCHEDULED CAN BE ACCOMMODATED WITHIN CAB LAWS AND REGS.

5. IF 30 DAY REQUIREMENT MAINTAINED, EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE GUIDANCE ON HOW TO REBUT ARGUMENT IT IS DISCRIMINATORY TO C.A.; ALSO ON HOW REQUIREMENT MIGHT BE LOWERED TO BRING IT INTO LINE WITH THE FOR DESTINATIONS IN CARIBBEAN AND MEXICO.
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